

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 08074 171438Z

41

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 AID-20 PC-04 AF-10

DPW-01 /185 W

----- 022285

R 171100Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4494

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 8074

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VIOR, IR, IN

SUBJECT: RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND IRAN

REF: (A) NEW DELHI 12185; (B) TEHRAN 1305

BEGIN SUMMARY: WE WISH TO COMMEND NEW DELHI'S ANALYSIS
(REFTEL A) OF RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND IRAN. WE AGREE
THAT IMPROVED IRAN -INDIAN RELATIONS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO
GENERAL U.S. POLICY OBJECTIVES IN THIS AREA; THAT IMPROVEMENT
IS PRIMARILY FOR THE TWO POWERS THEMSELVES TO ACHIEVE; AND
THAT THE UNITED STATES MAY BE ABLE TO HELP SOMEWHAT BY
QUIETLY ENCOURAGING A FRANK DIALOGUE. DESPITE MISUNDERSTANDINGS
ACTUAL INTERESTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES MAY COINCIDE MORE
THAN CLASH. THIS COULD BE DAWNING ON THE TWO SIDES.
END SUMMARY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 08074 171438Z

1. WITH ONLY A TWENTIETH OF INDIA'S POPULATION AND A

LOWER AVERAGE LEVEL OF SKILLS, IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW IRAN'S MILITARY BUILD-UP CAUSES ANXIETY IN NEW DELHI. FURTHERMORE, IRAN HAS TO WORRY ABOUT THE AMBITIONS OF A LATENTLY HOSTILE SOVIET UNION WHOSE POWER IT CAN NEVER MATCH. AND IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE LATEST MIDDLE EASTERN WAR, IRANIAN CONCERN OVER ARAB POTENTIALS WILL BE GREATER.

2. PAKISTAN ADMITTEDLY CONSTITUTES A MORE CONCRETE BASIS FOR MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN INDIA AND IRAN. TEHRAN FEARS THAT THE DISINTEGRATION OF PAKISTAN WOULD THREATEN THE INTEGRITY OF IRANIAN BALUCHISTAN. BUT INDIA WOULD SEEM ALSO TO HAVE REASON TO FEAR PAKISTAN'S BREAK-UP IN THE PERSIAN GULF, BOTH OBJECTIVELY SHARE AN INTEREST IN PRESERVING ACCESS TO THE WATERWAY AND IN MAINTAINING STABILITY IN THE SURROUNDING AREAS.

3. PSYCHOLOGICAL-POLITICAL FACTORS SEEM TO BE AT THE ROOT OF THE RIVALRY. IRANIAN PRIDE IS MATCHED BY INDIAN SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS. POMP SURROUNDING THE IRANIAN ROYAL FAMILY MAY BE IRRITATING TO INDIANS BUT IF THEY GET TO KNOW THE IRANIANS BETTER THEY WILL REALIZE THAT THE MONARCHY IS AN ANCIENT INSTITUTION WHICH HELPS TO HOLD TOGETHER THE DISPARATE PEOPLES OF IRAN.

4. BUT THERE MAY BE A TREND IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION DESPITE SWARAN SINGH'S REMARKS ABOUT IRAN'S ARMS BUILD-UP. DURING SINGH'S VISIT TO TEHRAN EARLIER THIS YEAR HE HELPED TO SOFTEN IRANIAN SUSPICIONS OF INDIAN INTENTIONS. THE RELEASE OF PAKISTANI POWS HELPS IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE. FINALLY, FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARI'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO INDIA SHOULD SERVE TO KEEP THE MOMENTUM ALIVE. IN THIS CONNECTION EMBOFF MET WITH CHIB DURING LATTER'S ATTENDANCE AT RED CROSS MEETING THIS WEEK AND STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF BETTER COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN IRAN AND INDIA. CHIB TOOK POINT AND SAID HE WOULD URGE THIS ON HIS ASSOCIATES IN MFA.

HELMS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BUILDUP, TERRITORIAL UNIFICATION, AMITY, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TEHRAN08074
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731127/aaaaatjr.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) NEW DELHI 12185; (B) TEHRAN 1305
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <10-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND IRAN
TAGS: PFOR, IR, IN
To: STATE NEW DELHI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005